

B.S. 45/298

G. I. Austin
• 9VB With Reg

GENERAL REGULATIONS

AND

INSTRUCTIONS, &c.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

AND

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR THE

TEN TROOPS

OF

WILTSHIRE YEOMANRY.

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EXERCISE DIRECTIONS,

ETC. ETC.

A REGIMENT, Squadron, or Troop, is said to be *in Line*, when formed in two Ranks.

A Squadron consists of one, two or more Troops.

The *Distances of Ranks* are taken from the Head of the rear Rank Horse to the Tail of the front one.

The usual Distances of one Rank from the other are expressed as follows :

Close Order is half the Length of a Horse, (about three and a half Feet) sufficient for the wheeling of Ranks by Three's; and it is

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the

the constant and essential Distance of Formation and Movement; all other Distances are only occasional Exceptions from it, used in Exercise and Situations of Parade.

Close to the Croup explains itself.

Order; a Distance equal to one-third of the Squadron, taken in Dismounting and in Parade. Other Distances of Exercise may be taken, when so required, by explanatory Commands.

Open Order; a Distance equal to one Half of the Squadron, taken in Parade.

Of Files.

FILE is the Distance from Man to Man, as they stand in Rank.

The Distance of Files at which the Regiment forms and moves, is six Inches from Boot-top to Boot-top, being calculated for the Gallop as well as the Walk of the Squadron.

Close Files is the Distance taken before dismounting, when each Man's Boot-top touches, but without pressing.



Open

Open Files, the full Breadth of a Horse from Boot-top to Boot-top; it is the Distance left when from Close Files the Left Files rein back to dismount, and is a Distance at which Recruits and Horses must be much exercised.

Double Open Files is a Horse's Length between Man and Man.

The Regiment is said to be *in Column*, when one Squadron or Half Squadron follows another.

Close Column is when one Squadron is distant from the other a Horse's Length.—

Open Column is when one Squadron is distant from another, the Length of the Front of the Column.

Each Squadron is to be told off—by

Half Squadrons.

Four Divisions.

Eight Sub-Divisions.

Ranks by Threes.

Files, Right and Left.

Half Squadrons is the Squadron divided in two equal Parts, in the Center of which is the Standard.

Four, or Divisions, is each Half Squadron divided in Two equal Parts, but so that the Center Half shall subdivide exactly by Threes.

Eight, or Sub-divisions, is each fourth Division divided in Two equal Parts, for the Purpose of marching on a small Front; but in this Case the Sub-division must not be less than six Files, otherwise the Squadron will open out.

Ranks by Threes, is each Half Squadron told off by Threes, beginning at the Standard (exclusive), and telling off to each Flank of the Squadron; this telling is calculated for the Retreat of the Squadron, by each Rank independently wheeling to the Right about by Threes; also for a Flank March of the Squadron, Six Men in Front, by each Rank wheeling to the Flank by Threes, and moving on.—The Deployments from Close Column into Line, and from Line into Close Column, are also made Ranks by Threes.—And it is the only Rank

Wheeling

Wheeling (with that by Twos) essential to the Movement of the Squadron.

Files, Right and Left, is each Half Squadron told off by alternate Files, beginning at the Standard (exclusive), and proceeding to each Flank of the Squadron; this telling off is calculated for the reining back, and doubling alternate Files, in order to dismount; also for a Flank March of the Squadron, Four Men in Front, by each Rank wheeling up to the Flank by Two's, and moving on.

The *Divisions of Ranks* arise of course out of those of the Squadron—they are, *Half Ranks*, *Quarter Ranks*, *Eighths of Ranks*.

When the Regiment, Squadron, or Troop is *to parade*, the Officers, or Non-commissioned Officers will form the Men at Close Order and Close Files. If the Standard is out, the youngest Cornet will carry it in the Center of the Squadron; and on Parade will advance a Horse's Length from the Front Rank; the other Subaltern Officers will be on the Flanks of their respective Squadrons, in a Line with

the Standard, and the Captain a Horse's Length before the Standard; when the Regiment is moving, the Cornet will fall back with the Standard into the Centre of the Front Rank, and be covered in the Rear by a Serjeant; the Subaltern Officers will fall back to the Flanks, and the Captain remain a Horse's Length before the Front Rank in the Centre: the Subaltern Officers will be covered by Non-commissioned Officers.

As soon as the Men are assembled on the Parade at the appointed Time, the Non-commissioned Officer will call over the Name of each Man, and will make out a Return of those present, those absent, and those that come late, which he will afterwards deliver to the Commanding Officer of the Troop; the Officers will then proceed to examine the Arms of each Man, that they are neat, clean, and in good repair, and report to the Commanding Officer of the Troop accordingly.

When a Field Officer comes on a Parade, the Officers of inferior Rank will salute, and will
also

also pay him the same Respect, when speaking to him on the Parade officially.

The non-commissioned Officers and Privates will also take care to pay the same Respect to all the Officers, by placing their Hands in the Front of their Helmets, except when standing in Rank and File, at which time they will dress according to the Direction of their Officer; but the Helmets are never to be taken off.

At the word *Attention!* every Man will place himself in his proper Position, whether on horseback, or on foot, and wait attentively for further Directions from his Officer.

At the word *Dress!* every Man will take care that he is in a proper Line with the rest, which will be done by casting his Eyes either to the Right or Left, as he is to dress to Right or Left, and see that he is in a Line with the Breast of the next Man but one; he must be careful, however, only to turn his Eyes, and not his Head, as by turning his Head, he will put himself out of his Position.

At the word *Eyes Right!* he will cast his
Eyes

Eyes to the the Right ; and so likewise to the Left, Centre, or Front, as he is directed by his Officers.

Of the two Troops that compose the Squadron, the Right one is sized from Left to Right, and the Left one from Right to Left ; that the largest Men and Horses may be in the Centre of the Squadron, and sizing well must not be neglected.

If the Troop is to act singly, and not to join in Squadron, it will then be additionally told off by Ranks by Threes, and also by Subdivisions, if it is sufficiently strong to admit of it.

Formation of the Squadron.

WHEN the Squadron is to be formed, the two Troops that compose it, close in to each other—the Officers then move out, and form in a Rank advanced two Horses length, fronting to their Troops ; the Serjeants and covering Corporals rein back, and dress with the Quarter-Master in the Rear.

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The Commanding Officer of the Squadron compleats the Files, and equalizes the Troops, by shifting a File or two if necessary.—The Officers are then ordered to their Places in Squadron, viz. one in the Centre for the Standard, and one on each Flank of the Front Rank, each of these three is covered by a Corporal; the other Officers place themselves in the Rear, as Serrefiles, at two Horses length distant from the Rear Rank.

The Commanding Officer then tells off the Squadron by Two or Half Squadrons—by Four or Divisions, and places a Serjeant, covered by a Corporal or Dragoon, on the Right of each of the Four Divisions, except the Right one; he then tells off each Half Squadron by Ranks by Threes, and each Half Squadron by alternate Files, Right and Left, beginning from the Standard (exclusive) and telling off to each Flank:—Observing always, that the File on the Right of the Standard is to be told a Left File, and that on the Left of the Standard
a Right

a Right File, in order to favour the Movements of Ranks by Twos.

Where the Strength of the Squadron admits of each Division being told off exactly into Threes, it is an eligible circumstance ; but at any rate Care must be taken that the Centre Divisions divide exactly by Threes, (and their Flank Serjeants be posted accordingly) although the Flank ones do not, and are thereby a File or two stronger or weaker.—If there is at last a Two or a Four on either Flank, it must so remain, as in the most advantageous Situation for aiding the Wheels.

The Squadron may also be told off in Subdivisions, each being the Half of a Division.

After the Squadron is told off in the above-mentioned Manner, they may proceed to perform any Evolutions the Commanding Officer may think necessary.

At the word *March!* the whole must be careful to move off together at the same Time, and great care must be taken that the Ranks are well dressed, and keep their proper Order ;
the

the Files well covered and at their proper Distance from each other, to avoid crouding.

When the Squadron takes Order.

THE Squadron being formed at Close Order, if (parade) Order is to be taken, the Commanding Officer gives the Word, *Rear Rank take Order!* and the Distance is immediately ascertained by an Officer or Non-commissioned Officer of the Rear, and behind which ever Flank the Dressing is to.—At the word *March!* the Rear Rank reins back to its proper Distance; the Standard, as also all the Officers, move out briskly a Horse's Length, and divide themselves in front of their own Troops, and of the Squadron at equal Distances; the Whole are dressed to a Flank, and the Commanding Officer is a Horse's Length in Front of the Standard.—The Trumpeters move up on the Flank of the Front Rank of their respective Troops, and the Quarter Masters and Farriers remain in the Rear.

When

When the Squadron takes Close Order.

WHEN from the Order, the Squadron is to take Close Order.—The Word *Take Close Order!* is a Caution. At the word *March!* the Rear Rank moves forward to Close Order, and Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Trumpeters, &c. take their Posts as before.

When the Regiment or Squadron is formed, the Officers and Non-commissioned are thus placed—

Commanding Officer. { Advanced a Horse's Length before the Standard.

Two Officers. { One on each Flank of the Front Rank, covered by a Corporal.

One Officer. { Carrying the Standard in the Centre of the Front Rank, covered by a Corporal.

Three

Three Serjeants. { One on the Right of the
Front of each of the Four
Divisions, except the Right
one, and each covered by
a Corporal or Dragoon.

The supernumerary or Serrefile Officers, and Serjeants, the Quarter Masters and Trumpeters, are in the Rear of their Troops, divided into a Line, at two Horses Distance from the Rear Rank. Farriers are behind Serrefiles a Horse's Length.

By this Distribution, Allowance is made for Sick and Absent Officers, and Non-commissioned Officers; and if a sufficient Number of any Rank is not present, then Serjeants replace Officers, Corporals replace Serjeants, and intelligent men replace Corporals.

The essential Post of the Quarter-Masters is always in the Rear of the Squadron when in Line; but in Changes of Position in Column, they may, when necessary, be ordered to conduct Pivots of Divisions; and when the Line is forming or dressing in a given Direction, they

may be usefully employed in giving true Points in that Line to the Regiment.

Such Officers or Serjeants, and their Coverers (except the Standard) as are on the Flanks, or in the Ranks, are told off as Files, and as Flank Men of Divisions, and on all Occasions File or Wheel with them, except when the Ranks Wheel by Threes or by Twos; then the Standard, together with the Flank Officers, and those that cover them, turn singly about, each Man on his own Ground, and retain the same relative Place in the Squadron, whether going to the Front, or Rear, or Flanks.

In Order to preserve each Troop entire, it is not material, if one Division is a File stronger than another, and in general, the Flank Divisions will be strongest from the Addition of Officers.—Officers will be posted with their Troops as much as possible. Corporals not wanted to mark the Divisions, or to cover Officers and Serjeants, will be in the Ranks according to their Size, or placed in the outward Flank File of their Troops; Farriers are considered

sidered as detached in all Situations of Mancevre.

All these general Circumstances of Formation apply and take Place, whether the Squadron is composed of one, two or more Troops, and whether the Troops are more or less strong.

AT the Word *Prepare to Dismount!* the Left Files of the Front and Rear Rank will rein back, so as to form Four Ranks, and must be careful not to close their Files; they will then proceed to let loose the Halter Reins, to gather up the Reins of their Bridles to the proper Length, in their Left Hand, and twist the Mane round their Left Thumb, afterwards placing their Hand on the Holster of the Saddle.

At the Word *Dismount!* every Man will get off his Horse immediately, as quick as possible, and run up to the Horse's Head, seizing the Bridle close to the Bit with his Right Hand.

At the Word *Link Horses!* the Left Files of each Rank will move up; every Man will link his Horse beginning at the Centre, by tying the Halter to the Ring of the next Halter, and then Face to the Front as before; the Front Rank will then march a few Paces forward, as directed by their Officer, and the Rear Rank, facing outward from the Center, will run round the Horses of the Front Rank, and form on the Rear of the Front Rank.

At the Word *Unlink Horses!* every Man will Face to his Horse as before, the Rear Rank facing outwards, and running round the Horses of the Front Rank to their own, untie the Halters, and throw the Halter Reins over their Horses Necks.

At the Word *Prepare to Mount!* the Left Files of each Rank will again rein back as before, and every Man will move up to his Horse's Shoulder, gather up the Reins properly in his Left Hand, twist the Mane round his left Thumb, and seize the Stirrup Leather with his Right Hand.

At

At the Word *Mount!* the Whole will spring as quick as possible into their Saddles, and place themselves in their proper Position, the Officers will give the Word, *Double your Files, Forward, March!* and the Left Files will again move up to their Places; the Rear Rank will then be at Order, therefore the Officer must say, *Rear Rank, take Close Order, March!* when the Rear Rank will move up to Close Order.

Dressing.

DRESSING is occasional to Right, Centre, or Left, as ordered.

The Squadron and all Bodies till otherwise ordered—	<i>Dress</i>	{ To the Hand to which they form.
	<i>March</i>	{ To the Hand to which they were dressed when halted.
	<i>Halt</i>	{ To the Hand to which they were dressed in Marching.

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When

When the Squadron or Line is halted, dressing is generally ordered to the Right.

When the entire Squadron moves in Line, or wheels, dressing is to the Standard in the Centre.

When a Column of entire Squadrons marches in an Alignement, in order to wheel up and form Line, dressing and covering, as in other similar Columns, is to the Pivot Flank.

In dressing, the Horses must stand straight to the Front, and the Men's Bodies must be square, each just casting his Eye along his next Man's Face, but without turning his Head.

The Men must be uniformly placed on Horseback, for on this Squareness of Man and Horse does Dressing and Movement most essentially depend.

In Dressing, when halted, a small Turn of the Head may be necessary, and is allowed in order to facilitate it. When the Word *Dress!* is alone given, in Line or Column, it means to the Hand to which the Troops are then looking: but when Eyes are at the same Time to be turned to a new Point, in order to dress,

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it should be so expressed by the Addition of *Right, Centre, or Left*. Whenever the Word *Halt, Dress!* is given by an Officer to his Division, it always implies that the Men are looking, or are to look to such Officer, who is then himself on the Pivot Flank of his Division.

All Dressing is to be made with as much Alacrity of Officer and Soldier as possible, and the Dresser of each Body, as he accomplishes the Operation, will give a Caution, *Front!* that Heads may then be replaced, and remain square to the Front. If the Body to be dressed is extensive, the Dresser must justly place one Division before he proceeds on that which is beyond it.

Every Dresser of a Body in a given Line must in his own Person, be placed on that Line, while he is directing such Operation.

WHEELINGS, Filings, Formings, and in
general,

general, the Movements of Manœuvre, and Changes of Situation of the Squadron and Regiment are made at a quick and vigorous Pace, determined by the Commands that are at the Time given,---But in Operations that arise, and are required from the Nature of a long March, all violent and unnecessary Exertions are, as much as possible, to be avoided, and in Proportion to the Extent of the Body, must Circumspection and Attention increase.

When the Troop or Squadron is ordered to Wheel to the Right from a Halt, the Man on the Right Flank of the Front Rank turns his Horse to the Right, and the Officer giving the Word *Eyes Left!* the whole cast their Eyes to the Left, except the Left-hand Man, and at the word *March!* the whole wheel to the Right, the Right Flank moving very slowly, the Left Flank trotting up till the Officer gives the Word *Halt! Dress!* So in like Manner, in wheeling to the Left.

If ordered to wheel when marching, the same Particulars are to be observed, except that the

the Pivot Man, or the Man on whom they wheel, halts and turns gradually, and when the Wheel is compleat, the Officer gives the Word *Forward!*

When the Word *by Threes to the Right Wheel!* is given, the Right Man of the Threes-reins back half round, the Center Man turns on his own Ground, and the Left of the Threes moves up in a Line with the Right, the Officers and Non-commissioned Officers who cover them, turn on their own Ground.

The Threes of the Rear Rank do the same as the Front Rank, and at the same Time, but in wheeling are not to cover the Front Rank; they only turn singly about.

If ordered to *Front*, the Threes turn to the Left, which brings them into their Places as before.

The same Particulars are observed in turning by Threes to the Left, except that all turn to the Left.

The same Particulars likewise are observed in turning *about* by Threes, except that they turn completely

completely round, and then, if ordered to *Front*, the Threes turn to the Right about.

In Wheeling by Threes to the Right, or Right about, the Right of the Threes becomes the Pivot Man, the other Two wheeling up to him; but in wheeling by Threes to the Left, and Left about, it is *vice versa*.

Care must be taken that the Threes of each Rank cover each other in wheeling separately about.

When ordered, *to the Right Incline!* the Whole will turn their Horses' Heads to the Right, and move on in an oblique Position, till the Commanding Officer of the Troop or Squadron says *Forward!* when the Whole set their Horses again square to the Front still keeping moving on.

In Marching in open Column, the Commanding Officer of each Troop must be particularly careful to keep his proper Distance, otherwise when ordered to *Wheel into Line*, there will not be Room enough for the Troops to wheel up.

When

When the Squadron or Troop is formed for Parade, the best and most steady Men, should be on the Flanks and Center.

Each Man, if possible, should always be put in the same Place, that he may know it well, as a Change of Situation will always have a Tendency to create Confusion.

The Distance between each Squadron, should be equal to one Third of their actual Front.

Movements of Ranks.

WHEN the Squadron is Marching by Half Ranks, Quarter Ranks, Sub-divisions, Threes or Files to the Front, the whole dress to the Right, and the Right-hand Man of the Front Rank is regulated by the leading Officer, in like Manner when the Squadron is marching to the Rear.

Marching in Front.

THE Commanding Officer gives the Word *Squadron, Forward!* as a Caution ; and at the
Word

Word *Forward*, each Man dresses to the Centre; and at the Word *March!* puts his Horse into Motion.

When the Squadron marches in Front, the Officer commanding the Squadron is answerable for the Line being properly dressed, for the Interval being kept, from which-ever Squadron is the directing Squadron, and for the Pace at which he conducts it; the Standard is to keep a Horse's Length from the Commanding Officer of the Squadron, to follow him exactly, and to slacken or quicken his Pace, according to the Words of Command, or the Direction he receives from him.

The Attention of the Rest of the Squadron must be invariably fixed on the Centre, that of the Front Rank on the Standard, and that of the Rear Rank on the Man covering it, who gives the Distance of Ranks as ordered.

Each Horse must be placed perfectly square to the Front, otherwise the Squadron cannot move justly.

If the Officers are in the Front of the Squadron

dron, the Standard must observe the Distance from the Commanding Officer of the Squadron as before, the Line of Officers dress by the Standard, and the Ranks by the Centre.

The Exercising Officer will give a distinct Point of View to the Officer commanding the Squadron, and to the Officer or Serjeant in the Rear, who is to give the Direction to the Line; the Officer commanding the Squadron will endeavour to find some intermediate Objects, and keep himself and the Standard or Centre perfectly directed towards them.

When the Squadron meets with any Obstacles to prevent its marching in Front, the Officer commanding it must either turn his Squadron by Threes to the Right or Left, or advance by Files from both Flanks, or incline, as may be necessary, to avoid the Obstacles, always taking Care to form his Squadron again, as soon as the Ground will admit of it. The Points of View, perhaps, before given, must in this Case, be necessarily lost; but must be resumed again, or new Points of View perpendi-

cular to the Line fixed upon, as soon as the Squadron regains its former Front.

In order that the Squadron or Regiment may hear and execute immediately the Orders of the Exercising Officer; all Explanations and Cautions in the Ranks are to be given in a low Voice, and above all Things the strictest Silence must be observed, which it is the Duty of every Officer to preserve, as much as possible.

When the Squadron is in Motion and receives the Word *Halt!* the Whole halt and dress immediately to the Point they may be directed to dress to.

On most Occasions the Halt should be made by the Right, except after a Gallop or Charge, and then it should be made by the Centre.

Filing.

IN Filings to the Front, Flanks, or Rear, whether of the Squadron, or any Part of it, at
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the Word *File!* every Horse is to be immediately inclined to the Flank that he is to file from, and kept in Motion; and above all great Care must be taken to go up to the Ground from whence the Filing began; the Leaders should go off short and quick at a Trot, and be followed by every Man as it comes to his Turn, close to the Croup, and to get quick off the Ground. Nothing shews more the Readiness of Horses and Riders, and the Difference of Regiments, than this Evolution, or gains them more Praise if done well.

Every Alteration of Pace ought to be made as much as possible, by the Whole at once, otherwise crouding or opening out must be the Consequence.

The File Leaders preserve such Distances as they ought, from whichever Hand they are to dress to, and the Followers of each File are only attentive to cover, and be regulated by their proper File Leaders. In File, the Rear Rank dresses by, and is regulated by its Front Rank.

When from File the Squadron is to be

formed, the Front Rank Leader moves out, and immediately should be covered by the Rear Rank Leader.

In forming to the Front from File, each Man must come up in File to his Place, and by no Means move up to his Place till his Leader has formed, to whichever Hand the File is forming to.

Filings that may be required from the Squadron are—Filings from either or both Flanks to the Front, Flanks or Rear—Filing from the Centre of the Squadron to the Front, or to the Flank—Filing single Men by Ranks, or by Front and Rear Rank Men alternately, from either Flank of the Squadron.

In the Filings of the Squadron, the Serrefiles take their Place in the Rear of the Files, unless the Ground will allow them to remain on the Flank of the Rear Rank ; but their general and proper Position is in the Rear of the Files, because Filing is, in general, an Operation of Necessity, which the Nature of the Ground requires.

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In all Formings from File, the Leaders of Ranks instantly cover each other, take the ordered Front, and halt.—The File forms to the Front, by moving up and closing to its Leaders. The File forms to the Rear, by doubling round its Leaders, who have themselves turned and faced. The File forms to its proper Flank, by turning and closing in to its Leaders.—The File forms to its Reverse Flank, by passing, turning, and successively closing to its Leaders.—In Formations from File, the Whole till otherwise ordered, dress to the Hand to which the Squadron or Division forms.

In filing off, the quicker the Leaders move, the sooner is the whole in File; in forming up, the slower the Leaders move, the sooner is the Whole formed.

At the Words, *From the Right to the Front, file*, the Whole will turn their Horses' Heads to the Right, and before the Word *March!* the Flank Man, on the Right Flank of the Front Rank, moves forward to the Front; the Flank Man on the Right Flank of the Rear moves

forward also to the Front, and rides a-breast with the Front Rank Man, having formed on his Right. At the Word *March!* all the rest do the same, following their File Leaders. In the like Manner, when commanded from the Left to file to the Front, they will move off from the Left.

When ordered from the Right to file to the Rear, the Whole must turn their Horses' Heads to the Right, and the Flank Man of the Right Flank of the Front Rank marches to the Rear, and the Rear Rank Man goes off a-breast with him : the Whole go off afterwards at the Word *March!* following their File Leaders.

In like Manner, when commanded from the Left to file to the Rear, they move off from the Left Flank to the Rear.

When commanded to form again from File, the whole must depend upon their File Leader ; if filed from the Right, they will form again by their Right-hand Man ; if filed from the Left, by their Left-hand Man, and the File Leader

Leader of the Front Rank will either keep moving on in the same Direction, or turn his Horse to the Right or Left as ordered to form to the Front, Right, or Left; the Rear Rank File Leader will cover exactly the Front File Leader, and halt on his Ground.

When ordered from the Centre of Squadron to file to the Front, the four Center Files with the Cornet and his covering File move forwards clear of the Front Rank, and at the Word *March*, the Right Half Squadron files to the Left, and the Left Half Squadron to the Right, and by keeping close up to their File Leaders, the whole will be in Column of Fours, with an Interval equal to the Breadth of one Horse in the Centre, owing to the Cornet and covering File.

At the Words *to the Front form Squadron*, they must turn their Horses Heads outwards, and take Care to form at the same Pace they were going, and dress to the Centre which they form upon.

From

From both Flanks of Squadron file to the Rear—March.

The Flanks will go to the Right and Left about, taking care to preserve their Intervals from each other, by dressing to the Centre Squadron.

To your former Front form Squadron.—If the Intervals have been lost in forming inwards, dressing to the Centre, and moving forwards a Yard or two will correct it.

Wheeling.

WHEELING is one of the most essential and important Operations of the Squadron, necessary in many Changes of Position, and in the Formation of Column, and of the Line.

When the entire Squadron is to wheel, a Caution is given to that Purport, and to which Hand ;

Hand; at the Word *March*, the Front Rank of the Squadron remains dressed to the Centre, the Leader fixes his Eye, and makes his Circle on the standing Flank Man; the Standard follows him exactly, and the Squadron wheels with the same uniform Front, at such a Pace as is requisite to keep every where dressed with the Standard. The Rear Rank and Serrefiles look to the Wheeling Flank, and incline at the same Time that they wheel, so as always to cover their Front Rank Leaders.

The Standard must take care never to oblige the Wheeling Man to exceed a moderate Gallop, otherwise the Rear Rank, which has still more ground to go over cannot keep up, the Squadron will wheel loose, and in disorder, and be longer in dressing than if it had come about at a slower Pace, but close and connected.

The Flanks must always conform to the Centre, in case the Leader does not take his Ground as exactly as he ought. At any rate
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the Standard is the Guide for the Pace, and to preserve the Distance of Files from.

The Leader must take care to time his Words *Halt, Dress!* the Instant before the Wheel is completed, otherwise an over-wheel or reining back will be the Consequence. The whole halt and dress by the Centre.

The Squadron breaks into Column of any of the Divisions in which it is told off by each of those Divisions wheeling up the Quarter Circle. If the Body is in Motion (as in Column) the Wheels of the Divisions all begin at the Word *Wheel!* if Halted, they are begun at the Word *March.*

In all Division Wheelings the whole look to the Wheeling Hand. In all Wheelings the Rear Rank must rein back at the Standing Flank, and incline towards the Wheeling Hand in order to cover. If ordered to Wheel from a Halt; the Pivot Man must turn his Horse on his own Ground, to whichever Hand the Wheeling is ordered to. At the Word *Halt, Dress!*

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Dress! given when the Wheel is compleated, the whole turn Eyes, and dress to the Standing Flank, and remain so till a new Direction is given, which will be Eyes $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{right,} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{left,} \end{array} \right\}$ to the Pivot Flank, when necessary.

Wheelings of the Squadron or its Parts from the Halt, are made on the Flanks, except those of Ranks by Threes, which are made on the Middle Man of each.

The Distances of Divisions of the Squadron when in Column, are taken and preserved from Front Rank to Front Rank.

When the Squadron is to be formed by the Wheeling up of its Divisions, there must be no false Intervals, and the Rear Ranks must rein back, and incline, so as not to interrupt the Front Ranks coming up together.

In Wheeling by Threes it is proper to observe that after the Squadron has gone about by Threes, the Officer commanding the Squadron does not lead but follows. Then
one

one of the Supernumerary Officers leads the Squadron to the Rear, if there be any, otherwise a Serjeant or Quarter Master. Turning by Threes should be practised constantly, as almost every Motion in the Regiment depends upon it.

Right and Left Shoulders Forward.

At the Words *Right Shoulders Forward!* being given, the Flank Man, on the Left Flank becomes the Pivot Man, and the Squadron keeps wheeling gently to the Left till they receive the word *Forward!* after having either performed a Quarter or Half Wheel as may appear necessary to the Commanding Officer for the Evolution that is to be performed; at the Word *Forward!* they must not regain their former Front as when inclining, but must move on in the Direction into which they are brought by this Motion: So when the Words *Left Shoulders Forward!* are given, the same Directions are to be observed, only *vice versa*.

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This Motion is of particular Service in changing the Front of a Line.

Inclining.

Inclining is a Movement by which the Squadron is carried on in a parallel Direction at the same Time that it is gaining Ground to the Flank. It is of great Use in the Marching of the Line in Front, to correct any Irregularities that may happen.

At the Order to *Incline*, each Man makes a Half Face on his Horse's fore feet, by which means each will appear to be half a Head behind his Flank Leader, and the whole will look to the Hand to which they are to incline.

The leading Officer on the Flank, with a Glance of his Eye ascertaining his Points, marches steadily upon them at whatever Pace he is ordered. Every other Man in the Squadron moves in so many parallel Lines with respect to him, preserving the same Uniformity of Front and Files.

Great Care must be taken that the whole move at the same Pace, and quicken or slacken it together as ordered.

At no Time of the Incline ought the former Front of the Squadron or Distance of Files to be altered; but whenever the Word *Front!* is given, the Squadron (by each Man at the same Time turning his Horse) should be formed in a Direction perfectly parallel to its former Front, and ready to dress and move on by the Standard.

In the Incline, the Rear Rank moves in the same Manner, and is of course regulated by the Front Rank, which it takes care to conform to.

Pace.

The Paces of Cavalry cannot be regulated by Length of Step and Numbers, in a Minute, as those of the Infantry are, nor is it so material.

The Walk, Trot and Gallop are the Three natural

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natural Paces, and of each of these there are different Degrees of Quickness; but at which ever of them the Squadron is conducted, the slowest moving Horse at that Pace must be attended to, otherwise different kinds of Motion will exist at the same Time in the Squadron, and tend to disunite it. Horses deficient in any of those Paces, or not broken to a Steadiness in each of them, are improper for the Squadron.

Though single Horses or small Bodies may instantaneously change from one Pace to another, yet a Squadron or a Number of Bodies will move with more Ease and Uniformity, when such Transitions are made gradually through the different Paces, as from a *Walk* to a *Slow Trot*! *Quick Trot*! *Slow Gallop*! *Quick Gallop*! and *vice versa*: each of these by its separate Word of Command, which may follow as quickly as is found necessary.

All Alterations of Pace must be made as much as possible at the same Instant by each separate Body that composes a Line or Column.

Though in slow Movements of the Line or

Squadron, and on the March, the *Walk* is the common Pace used ; yet in general, all Changes of Position and Manœuvres should be made at the *Trot* or *Gallop*, according to Circumstances, beginning gently to avoid hurry, and ending gently to avoid confusion in forming. The intermediate Times of such Movement may be conducted with Rapidity, and much depends on the Eye of the Officer, and well timing the Words of Command.

Great Bodies, consistent with perfect Order, cannot move with the same Degree of Rapidity as smaller Ones, and therefore an Allowance proportionable to their Extent must be made in conducting them, whether in Line or Column, and this only the Eye, Practice, and Attention can determine.

Of the Charge or Attack.

The great Force of Cavalry is more in the Offensive than the Defensive, therefore the Attack is its principal Object.

When the Squadron is to Charge, Swords
should

should be drawn, the Standard in the Ranks, the Officers on the Flanks, and the Ranks at Close Order; the Commanding Officer gives the Word, *Forward! March! Trot! Gallop! Charge!*

It depends upon the Commanding Officer to lead at such a Pace as that the Flanks and Rear Rank may always keep up: every Alteration of Pace must be made at the same Instant by the whole Squadron.

At the Word *Charge!* the Pace should be increased as much as the Squadron can bear in good Order.

Great Care should be taken that the Files should not be closed so much in the Charge, as to crowd the Centre; at the same Time they must not be too open.

When the Charge is performed, before the Word *Halt!* is given, it will be proper to give the Word *Walk!* when the whole slacken their Pace, the Centre moving forward gently, and the rest dressing to it, so by the Time the

Word *Halt!* is given, the Squadron will be well dressed to the Centre.

In every part of the Charge, and in quick Movements, the Standard should be very exact in following the Officer commanding the Squadron; and the Men particularly attentive in keeping up to, and dressing to their Standards; they must carry their Swords steady and upright, keeping their Reins short, so as to have the Horses well in Hand, perfectly square in the Front, their Heads always well up, which will keep them under good Command.

A Squadron should never be so much hurried as to bring up their Horses blown to the Charge, this will always depend on Circumstances, and the Order the Horses are in.

If the Strength of the Animal is exhausted, the Effort of the Squadron will be feeble; if in full Vigour, the shock of a steady and determined Squadron must be irresistible.

Squadrons should be brought up in the Charge to within Eight or Ten Yards of the Person reviewing them, as it will have a better Effect

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Effect than a Halt made at a greater Distance. Whatever Distance the Squadron has to go over, it may move at a brisk Trot till within two hundred and fifty Yards of the Enemy, and then Gallop. The Word *Charge!* is given when within eighty Yards, and the Gallop increased as much as the Body can bear in good Order. Any Attempt to close the Files at the Instant of the Charge would only increase the Intervals in a Line, and tend to impede the free Movement of each Horse, who at no Time requires to be more independant than when galloping at his utmost Exertion, and every rub, to right or left, diminishes that Effort in a Degree.

At the Instant of the Shock, the Body must be well back, the Horse not restrained by the Bit, but determined forward by the Spur; rising in the Stirrups, and pointing the Sword will always occasion a shake in the Squadron; it will naturally be done when necessary.

It is in the uniform Velocity of the Squadron that its Effect consists, the Spur as much as
the

the Sword tends to overset an opposite Enemy ; when the one has nearly accomplished this End, the other may compleat it.

In the Walk, the Sword is carried with the Blade resting on the Right Arm. In the Trot and Gallop, the Right Hand must be steadied on the Right Thigh, the Point of the Sword rather inclining forward.

The Squadrons must be well dressed before they move ; Horses perfectly straight, and carried on so during the Attack ; Files on no Account crouding ; Paces even and determined ; Horses in Hand, and perfect Steadiness and Attention of every Individual.

After a Charge, Skirmishers may be sent out to cover the Retreat, and these should be previously appointed.

The first Three, Front and Rear, from each Flank of Squadrons will be sufficient. When ordered to move out, after the Charge, they must come briskly to the Front, return their Swords, and draw their Pistols to cover the Retreat. They must not fire till the Line is retreating, and

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then the Front Rank Men fire their Pistols to the Front, dressing as well as possible to each other. They turn their Horses about outwards, load as they retreat, and face again to the Right and Left about, when two Horses length behind their Rear Rank Men. Those do not advance, but must fire their Pistols after their File Leaders have passed them, and then follow the same Rules till they get behind them again, continuing thus to fire, retreat, load, and front alternately, till the Bugle sounds for the Line to front, after which they must on no Account fire, but return their Pistols, draw their Swords, and gallop back to their Places by the Rear of their respective Squadrons.

Of Forming Columns.

A Regiment is said to be in Column, when any Number of Men, more than two in Front, are following each other, so that there may be a Column of *Three's* or *Four's*, of
Quarter

Quarter Ranks, or Half Ranks, of Troops or Squadrons.

Open Column, as before mentioned, is when one Troop or Squadron is distant from another, the Length of the Front of the Column; so that when ordered to wheel into Line, they would not crowd each other, but come into their proper Places, and to their proper Distances.

Close Column is, when One Troop or Squadron is distant from the other only a Horse's Length.

If ordered to form a Column of *Three's*, it is always to be a Close Column.

Columns are formed many ways, according as the different Situations of the Ground may make it necessary, for the simple Exemplification of which, we will suppose a Regiment to consist of Three Squadrons of any size, and in this Case a Column of Squadrons may be formed upon the *Right Squadron*, with the Right Squadron in Front; or upon the *Left Squadron*, with the Left in Front; or upon the

Right

Right Squadron, with the *Left* in Front ; or upon the *Left Squadron*, with the *Right* in Front ; also upon the *Centre Squadron* with the *Left* in Front ; likewise upon the *Centre Squadron* with the *Right* in Front ; all of which different Situations of Ground or Defiles may make it necessary to make Use of.

Therefore when the Exercising Officer gives the Word of Command, *upon the Right Squadron, Right in Front, form open Column*——the Officers commanding the Centre and Left Squadrons must say to their respective Squadrons, *to the Right Quarter Wheel, March!* and then by *Three's to the Right Wheel*; and upon receiving the Word *March!* they lead off their Squadrons at a brisk Trot or Gallop, and having taken their proper Distances, the Centre in the Rear of the Right Squadron, and the Left in the Rear of the Centre Squadron, they give the Words, *to the Left, Form! to the Left, Dress!* by which Motions the Column will be formed as directed. The next Care then of the Officers commanding the Squadrons
will

will be, to see that their Pivot Flanks are covered : and here it will be proper to explain what is meant by a Pivot Flank.

Pivot Flank.

A Pivot Flank signifies that Flank, upon which it would be necessary for the different Squadrons to wheel to come into their proper Places, if ordered to wheel from an Open Column into Line ; so that, if the Right Squadron is in Front, the Left Flanks will be the Pivot Flanks ; and if the Left is in Front, the Right Flanks will be the Pivot Flanks. In case therefore the Exercising Officer should order the Regiment to wheel from an open Column into Line, the Pivot Flanks must be well dressed, that is to say, cover each other exactly, otherwise the Line will not be true.

If the Regiment is ordered *to form a Column upon the Left Squadron, with the Left in Front*, the Centre and Right wheel by Three's to the Left, and at the Word *March!* being given, form in the Rear of the Left Squadron, in the same

Manner

Manner as before mentioned when formed on the Right. If ordered to *form upon the Right Squadron with the Left in Front*, the Centre and Left Squadrons wheel by Threes to the Right, and at the Word, *March!* both form in Front of the Right. If ordered to *form upon the Left with the Right in Front*, the Centre and Right wheel by Threes to the Left, and form in Front of the Left.

If ordered to *form upon the Centre Squadron with the Right in Front*, the Right Squadron wheels by Threes to the Left, and forms in the Front of the Centre, the Left Squadron at the same Time wheels by Threes to the Right, and forms in the Rear of the Centre. So *vice versa*, if ordered to *form upon the Centre Squadron, with the Left in Front*.

Before a Column is to be formed, Markers should be ordered out to mark the proper Distance between each Squadron in Column, as ordered to be formed. *Dressing* in Column must be to the Right, if formed upon the Left Squadron with the Left in Front; and to the
E
Left,

Left, if formed upon the Right, with the Right in Front.

Changing Front.

Upon the Regiment receiving the Word, *Upon the Right Squadron, as Directing Squadron, to the Right, Change Front!* the Right Squadron must wheel to the Right, and Centre and Left Squadrons to the Right half wheel, and at the Word, *March!* must move up at a brisk Pace, forming in a Line with the Right, at their proper Intervals, and dressing to the Right. So *vice versa* in changing Front to the Left.

Line of March and Formation.

Every Leader of a Body moving on any Front whatever, who means to conduct it in a straight Line, must march upon two Points which he invariably preserves so as to cover each other; if such points are not ascertained for him, he must instantly determine them for himself, and if no strong or marked Objects present

present themselves in his Direction, he can never fail, by casting his Eyes along the Ground, to find such small ones as will answer his purpose, and these from time to time he renews as he approaches them. To march straight on one Object only with certainty and without wavering, is not to be depended on.

To march or form in the *Alignement*, is to make Troops march or form in any part of the straight Line which joins two given Points or is prolonged beyond them.

When the leading Body of a Column arrives at any Point where it is to enter on a straight Line, a Person will be placed, with his Horse's Head facing to the Pivot Flank of the Column ; each Leader will thus know why he is so placed, and will, in passing close to him and to every other Person posted in a similar Manner, give every attention to continue the *Alignement*.

When a Column is standing or moving, the Pivot Leaders will always touch the Line of the Heads of such Horses as they find

placed facing to them, and marking the Direction of the Line.

When the Divisions wheel up into Line, the Horses Heads of the Line and of the marking Persons will then touch, and the Dressing of the Men will of course be half a Horse's length removed from the Line of Horses heads of the marking Persons.

When Divisions come up in Front successively into Line, they come up to the Horses' Heads of the Marking Persons.

The Necessity of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers being well trained, to prolong Lines, take up Distances, and give those Aids which are so essential in the Formations and Movements of all considerable Bodies, is evident and much to be attended to. Persons active, intelligent and well mounted, can only assist the Operations of Cavalry, nor are Camp Colours, or any such improper and superfluous modes necessary, or in general to be used.

The Markers of the Alignement in Column, or of the Formations in Line, are not to quit their

their Ground after the Halt of either, till all necessary Dressing is accomplished, and that they are directed so to do; they serve not only as Points of Movement, but as Points of Correction.

When the Squadron is broken into Divisions, or any Parts, for the Purpose of Movements, each separate Body has a Leader, on whom the Eye and Attention of each Soldier is fixed.

In Column, such Leader will be on the Pivot Flank of his Division in all situations of Manœuvre.—These Leaders cover each other in the given Direction in which the Column is to move; they are not themselves then to be covered by any one, and are answerable for true Distances. Should any such Leader not be appointed or be wanting to a Division, his Place is to remain vacant, and not to be occupied by the Flank Files of Men, for such Flank Files of Men are invariably to remain covering each other.

When from the Halt, the Squadron by Wheels to its Flank, breaks into Open Column, the Commanding Officer gives the Words,

Half-Squadrons } to { *right,* }
Divisions } the { *or* } *Wheel! March!*
Sub-Divisions } { *left,* }

Halt! Dress! by the Standing Flank, and then

Eyes { *right,* }
 { *or* } by the Pivot; after which the
 { *left,* }

whole is put in Motion by the Word, *March!* Should the Word *Eyes!* (*Right or Left*) be omitted, at any Rate they are directed to the Pivot Flank at the Word *March!*

When the Squadron has wheeled to a Flank by Half Squadrons;—if to the Right, the Officer from the Right of the Squadron immediately shifts to the Left of his Half Squadron, to conduct the Pivot of the Leading Half Squadron, and the Officer who was on the Left of the Squadron wheels up, and remains on the Left of his own Half Squadron;—if to the Left, then the Left Officer shifts to the Right of his Half Squadron, and the Right Officer wheels up and remains on the Right of his own Half Squadron. When the Squadron has wheeled to a Flank by Divisions: If to the Right

Right, then the Left Officer is on the Pivot of the Rear Division, and the Right Officer shifts to the Pivot of the Front Division, and the Serjeants on the Right of the Two Centre Divisions shift each to the Left of his own Division; If to the Left, then the Right Officer wheels up, and is on the Pivot Flank of the Rear Division, the Serjeants on the Right of the Two Centre Divisions also wheel up, and the Left Flank Officer shifts to the Pivot of the Leading Division of the Squadron.

When the Squadron has wheeled to a Flank by Sub-divisions, then the two Flank Officers, and their Coverers, and the two Centre Serjeants, and their Coverers, will each be on the Pivot Flank of a Sub-division.

In the Wheelings of the Squadron into Half Squadrons, Divisions or Sub-divisions, the Standard and its Coverer wheel up with the Leading Half Squadron or the Second Division, or the Fourth Sub-division from the Flank wheeled to, so as place themselves, at the conclusion of the Wheel, behind the Second
and

and Third File from the Pivot of each of the said Bodies, and when these Bodies wheel up to form Squadron, the Standard shifts briskly to its Place in the Centre, during the Wheel.

When from the Halt, and from open Column the Squadron is formed by the Wheeling up of its Divisions, the Commanding Officer gives the Words (Half Squadrons, Divisions, Sub-divisions, Ranks by Three's) *Wheel into Line!* on which the Pivot Leaders immediately place themselves on the reverse Flank of such Division, as by its Wheel up brings them to their true Place in the Squadron; the Pivot Officer of the Rear Division is alone an Exception, being already at his Post in Squadron. At the Word *March!* the whole wheel up and receive the Word *Halt! Dress!* by the Standing Flank and the Line of Pivots; the Standard, Serrefiles, and every Thing having resumed their Place in Squadron.

Squadrons forming from Ranks by Two's, receive successively from their Leaders, as their Heads come to their Ground, the Words, *Wheel*

into

into Squadron! Halt! Dress! to the Hand
formed to.

A Column in Movement should, if possible, never occupy more Ground than what it stands on in Line; but when the Formation into Line must undoubtedly be to the Front, then the Divisions may be ordered to march closed up to Half, Quarter, or any other Distance, and the Formation will be made by prolonging the Line by Deployment, by inclining up, or by Half Wheels, and marching on the oblique Lines, as Circumstances require.

An open Column of Squadrons, or Half Squadrons, will generally, from their Extent of Front, change the Direction of their March by square and quick Wheels made on a Flank; but the Column of Divisions, Sub-divisions, Ranks by Three's, or by Two's, when obliged frequently to change its Direction of March, may do it advantageously by the gradual and circling Movement of the leading Pivot, to which all others, as it comes to their turn, successively conform, taking care that at

no instant whatever, the ordered Distances are changed or lost, and that Eyes remain turned to such Pivots.—Columns marching at Half or Quarter Distance of their then Front, must also make their necessary Wheels on a moveable Pivot, otherwise a stop must ensue, and the Column open out.

Commands.

The following Extracts from General Dundas's Book of Instructions and Regulations for the Formations and Movements of the Cavalry, are earnestly recommended to the Perusal and Observance of the Officers.

“ All Commands must be given by Officers, firm, loud, and explicit; every Officer must therefore be accustomed to give such Commands, even to the smallest Bodies, in the full Extent of his Voice; by such Bodies he must not only be heard, but by the Leaders of others, who are dependent on his Motions.—The Justness of Execution, and the Confidence of the Soldier, can
only

only be in Proportion to the firm, decided, and proper Manner in which every Officer of every Rank gives his Orders.

“ Commands of Caution being such as are preparatory to a Movement, should be sufficiently full and explanatory.—Commands of Execution should be short, and avoiding unessential Words.

“ The Commanding Officers of Regiments give and repeat all general Commands, which are also shortly and quickly repeated by Commanding Officers of Squadrons, especially such as are executory, as *March! Halt! Dress! &c.*—It is only when the Squadrons and Line are broken into Parts, that the Division Officers give Commands, and those chiefly executory, as *Halt! Dress! &c.* Also the several Words necessary for the Wheels made in Column of March by each Division; the several Words necessary when the Divisions come up successively, from open or close Column, into Line or Column, whether conducted by Front or Flank Movements; and in general whenever their Divisions

visions are moving as distinct, though dependent Bodies.—But the wheeling from Column into Line, or from Line into general Column, is made at the Word *March*, repeated by Leaders of Squadrons; the whole Column is also put in March, and halted by Word from the Leaders of Squadrons, as is the Squadron and Regiment in all Manœuvres of the Line in Front.

“ When the general Order is not heard by a Part of the Line, each Regimental Commander (when the Intention is obvious and undoubted) will conform as quickly as possible to the Movement which he sees executed on his Right or Left, according to the Point from whence he perceives it to begin—but Squadron and Division Officers execute only on the Orders of their Regimental Commander.

“ After the Chief Commander has announced the Orders, and particularly the Words of Execution, as *March! Form! Halt! &c.* the Repetition of them by every other Individual concerned, must not be strictly successive, but as much as can be in a Volley, to beget that Precision

Precision of Movement, which in Manœuvre is indispensable; and the larger the Body, the more essentially does this Circumstance operate.

“ In the quick Movements and Manœuvres of Cavalry, there is not time for the full and formal Words of Command.----On such Occasions they must be rapidly given, much abridged, and all Expletives omitted; instead of *Ranks by Three's, to the Right about Wheel!* (say) *Three's about Wheel!*

“ *Ranks by Three's to the Left Wheel!* (say) *Three's Left Wheel!*

“ *Division to the Right Incline!* (say) *Right Incline, &c. &c.* which from the Nature of the Movements, and to Troops well trained, are sufficiently intelligible.

“ If Officers are observing of, and attentive to their true Distances of Divisions, and of the covering of their Pivot Flanks, the most considerable Column of Cavalry ought to be able in changing its Position, to enter on a given Alignement at a brisk Trot! to Halt! to Wheel into Line! to Advance, and to Charge! with-

out more than a momentary Pause between each Operation of the Halt, Wheel, and Advance, and without being under any Necessity of dressing, correcting Distances, or Alterations whatever; and unless Regiments are equal to, and can be depended upon for such Operations, no critical or advantageous Measure, when close to the Enemy, can be attempted; and the great Efforts that Cavalry ought to make from the Celerity and Justness of its Movements, will be lost.

“ An Officer must not only know the Post which he should occupy in all Changes of Situation, the Commands which he should give, and the general Intention of the required Movements; but he should also be Master of the Principles on which each is made, and of the Faults that may be committed, in order to avoid them himself, and to instruct others.”— These Principles are in themselves so simple, that moderate Reflexion, Habit, and Attention, will soon show them to the Eye, and fix them on the Mind.

After-

“ Ascertaining the Points necessary for the Movements and Formations of the Regiment is the particular Business of the Adjutant, in the Field. In this Exercise he may be assisted by detached Persons placed behind each Flank, who are properly trained quickly to take up such Line as he shall give them; and for this Purpose they are only to be sent out successively, and as their Aid is wanted; nor are they to make any bustle or unnecessary parade; and when the Operation for which they were sent out is accomplished, they will immediately return behind their proper Flank.

“ Officers that lead Squadrons in Line, guide Pivots in Column, or conduct the Flanks of Divisions successively into Line, in Changes of Position; and indeed all Officers, who in their own Persons determine the Movement of any Body, must recollect, that unless they themselves are steady, correct, and smooth in the Path which they give, their several Bodies cannot follow in firm or proper Order, but will partake of every Irregularity of such Leader;

who therefore must attend to his Objects of Distance and Leading, and bestow only an occasional Glance of his Eye on the dressing of the Division he leads.

“ Officers who have an indistinct Sight must never lead the head Division of a Column, marching in a straight Alignment; and must therefore be replaced on such Occasions by others, whose more accurate Vision enables them to preserve and prolong the just Line which the whole are to follow.

“ Field Officers and Adjutants must always recollect the Number of Yards which the Front of a Regiment, or any of its component Parts occupy, and be enabled by the Eye, as well as the Paces of their Horses, quickly and nearly to ascertain and give such Distances. Every Squadron Leader must quickly judge the Extent of his Squadron, and every Division Leader and Marker of a Pivot Flank, the Front of the Division which he regulates.—Practice and Attention soon give Accuracy in these Points, which are an essential Part of Regimental Instruction.

One

One Yard nearly is to be allowed for each Horse and Man, and therefore the Front of a Body is as many Yards as Files.

March in Line.

The March of the Line in Front is the most difficult, and the most material of all Movements; it is requisite near the Enemy, and immediately precedes the Attack. In proportion to the Extent of Front and Rapidity required does that Difficulty increase; therefore too much Exactness and Minuteness in the Execution of it cannot be observed.

When Marching in Line each Squadron dresses to its own Centre, which Centre follows its own Leader; the several Leaders line with, and preserve Distances from each other, and from the regulating Squadron; this alone has its Objects of March, the others being all subordinate to, and conforming to its Motions.

When Parts of a Line marching in Front are interrupted by any Obstacle, they must Halt,

and by flank Movements of their Divisions, or Sub-divisions, double behind (into Close Column) such adjoining Parts as are not so interrupted, and avoid pressing upon them. In proportion as they pass such obstacles, and that the Ground permits them to come up into Line, they will in the same Manner, by flank Movements, move up into their proper Places, where a void space has been preserved for them.

If only small Portions of a Line are interrupted, and for a short Space, they may follow in File, or rather in Rank by Three's or Two's, behind the Flanks of the uninterrupted Parts, and move up to their Places in Files, (or by Three's or Two's) when it can be done.

When the Line Halts, each Squadron Halts and Dresses by its own Centre; and if the Dressing of the general Line is to be afterwards corrected, it ought to begin at, and be taken from the regulating Squadron.

• The *Line* should always be in so correct a Situation,

Situation, as to halt instantly on the Word *Halt!* but if at any Time the Difficulties of Ground have unavoidably thrown Squadrons out of the Line, in such Case, the Halt of those Squadrons will be successive, as they regain their proper Situations.

The Distances of Squadrons in Line are always taken from Standard to Standard.

The Standards must be always carried uniformly and upright, in order to facilitate the moving and dressing of the Line.

After the March and Halt in Line of each Squadron by its own Centre, if a more exact Dressing is required, then two Persons are placed with their Horse's Heads before the Flank Files of the regulating Squadron, which is previously dressed in the true Direction; from each Flank of each other Squadron, a Person advances (directly forward) to prolong that Line; all Eyes are directed to the regulating Squadron; the whole (by Squadrons, either together or successively, and quickly as ordered) move up and halt in the given Line. A
straight

straight Line is in this Manner obtained, but if the Intervals are false, they must remain so till corrected by order, and by a separate operation of flank marching.

A Flank Squadron of a Line need never remain an Instant with a false Interval, or ill dressed, as its Corrections do not interfere with any other Part of the Line.

When it is necessary for any Squadron, on account of inaccurate and loose Formation, to close its Files or Parts by Passing, it should be done to such File of the Squadron as will best tend to establish the just Interval it ought to keep from the directing Hand; this will depend on the quick Eye and Decision of the Commanding Officers of Squadrons, who will hold it in view on such Occasion.

All Correction of the Dressing of a Line, after forming or halting, is made from the Point by which the Movement, Formation, or Halt was made; should that Point be obliged to shift, then the Line formed must be an accidental one. When the Line halts after moving
in

in Front, such Point is the Centre of the regulating Squadron. When from Column the Line is formed by wheeling up, such Point is the Flank, which was the Leading Pivot of the Column.

When the Line is formed by the successive marching up of Divisions in Front, as in change of Position on a given Division, such Point is the outward Flank of the given Division. In general, when Corrections of a Line are to be made, the Commander places two or three Persons in the intended Line, which is instantly prolonged by others, and the Regiment conforms accordingly.

In the Correction of the partial Parts of a Line, the reining back, or throwing back such Parts, cannot always be avoided ; but where the whole Line is to be new dressed, and that Circumstances admit, much facility attends the Operation, if such a Direction is taken as causes a dressing forward, however small, of every Squadron that composes it.

Changes

Changes of Position of the Regiment by the Echellon (or Diagonal) Movement.

The *Echellon* Position and Movements are not only necessary and applicable to the immediate Attacks and Retreats of great Bodies; but also to the previous oblique or direct Changes of Situation, which a Regiment or Corps formed in Line, may be obliged to make to its Front or Rear; or on a particular fixed Division of the Line.

The *Echellon Changes of Position* are the safest that can be employed in the presence of, and near to an Enemy. The Advantages attending them are the preserving a general Front during the March, and allowing sufficient freedom of Movement, which in such a Situation is indispensable; they enable to change Position on any Division of the Line, either on a fixed or moving Point, and at any Instant the Movement can be stopped, a Line formed, and a sudden
Attack

Attack repulsed. The Echellon changes require the Ground to be nearly of such a Nature as a full Line could advance in, and any of its Divisions that meet with Obstacles in their March will pass them in the same Manner as they do in Line, by doubling Divisions, or following Ranks by Three's, and without interrupting the Progress of the others.

Changes of Position of the Regiment or Line made by the Echellon March of Divisions, consist of three Parts, viz.

First, Divisions (generally Half Squadrons) of the Regiment or Line, wheel forward an *Eighth, Quarter or Half Wheel*, as ordered, towards the Hand to which they are to change Position, and so as that each thereby stands perpendicular to the Line drawn from its inward Flank to the Point that Flank is to rest at in the new Line.

Second, each Division marches on directly in Front, by its inward Flank, to its proper Point in the new Line.

Third, each Division successively on its inward

ward Flank arriving at the Division preceding it (which is already halted in the Line) dresses up and forms truly in that Line.

*Divisions will
make an Eighth
Wheel to the Right!*

March!

Halt! Dress!

At the General caution; that the Divisions will wheel forward, as much as to place them perpendicular to their future Lines of March; a person from the leading Division of each Squadron marks the wheeling Flank of that Division, according to the Degree ordered, whether Half, Quarter or Eighth Wheel.

At the Word, *March!* each Division wheels up, and they receive the word *Halt! Dress!* to the standing Flank, to which the Leaders of Divisions (as necessary) have shifted.

Officer

Officers.

Officers should always appear upon Parade compleatly accoutred, and when on Duty of any kind wear their Sashes, and endeavour as much as possible to be Examples of Nicety and Exactness in the Uniformity of their Dress.

Officers should always endeavour to preserve as much as possible a perfect Silence in the Ranks, so that the Words of Command may not be interrupted; they should likewise endeavour to keep up the Attention of every one, by calling in a low Voice to any Person whom they may see inattentive, or talking, or not Dressing.

The Commanding Officer of every Troop, and in their absence the Subaltern Officers, should on each Day of Exercise examine the Dress, Arms and Accoutrements of every Individual, to see that they are neat, clean and in good Repair, and that the strictest Attention is paid to the Uniformity of them.

The Commanding Officer of every Troop should deliver to the Colonel a Return of his Troop on the First Day in every Month, by which is implied not the exact Names, but merely the Numbers, specifying the Names of those who may have quitted the Regiment, have been Discharged, or have Died, or have recently entered; a Return should also be delivered to the Colonel of the State of the Arms and Ammunition of the Troop every Quarter-Day.

Officers commanding Troops should oblige their Serjeants to deliver to them the Return of those Present and Absent after every Day of Exercise, and afterwards direct them to insert such Returns into an Orderly Book which should be kept by each Serjeant, and in which any written Orders given by the Officer commanding the Troop should be inserted; and it is recommended to the Officers always to write down their Orders.

Officers commanding Troops should also direct their Serjeants to make out a Return of
the

the Arms, Accoutrements and Cloathing given to each Individual of the Troop.

Officers should frequently visit the Horses of the Serjeant and Trumpeter of their Troop when in the Stables, by which they will judge whether they are properly fed and cleaned.

Officers should be particularly exact in telling off their Troop, so that every Individual may understand his particular situation perfectly.

Serjeants.

Serjeants should always appear as very good examples in every thing that is becoming a good Soldier, and should be particularly careful to be extremely exact in the Uniformity and Cleanliness of their Drefs, the Nicety of their Accoutrements, and in their great attention and diligence in the Field.

The Serjeants should always be the first on Parade; and as soon as it is formed, call over the Roll, and afterwards make out the

Return of those Present, those Absent, and those that are Ill, which they must deliver to the Officer commanding the Troop.

It is the Duty of Serjeants to inform the Gentlemen of their Troop of the Day appointed for Exercise, and to give them Instructions upon every Circumstance that they may wish to have Information.

Serjeants when upon Duty are always to wear their Sashes; they should pay great Attention to the Ranks, but always giving their Instructions in a low Tone of Voice, so as not to prevent the Words of Command from being distinctly heard by every Individual.

The Instructions of the Troop in the Use of the Carbine, Pistol and Sword, both on Foot and on Horseback, must depend greatly upon the Serjeants, and in which they must instruct the Gentlemen in a very exact Manner.

After the Duties of the Field, that of the Stable must be the chief Object of the Serjeants; who must be wholly answerable for the good condition of their horses; they must likewise be
careful

careful to keep an exact Return of the Cloathing, Arms and Accoutrements delivered to each Individual, and which must always be ready for the Inspection of the Officers.

An Orderly Book should be kept by them, in which they should insert every written Order given to them, and likewise the Returns of every Parade.

If there be any Arms belonging to the Troops not in Use, the Care of them must devolve on the Serjeants, who must take particular Care to keep them clean and fit for Service. They must also take Care to examine the Ammunition frequently, to see that it is not damp; and when it is delivered out for the Use of the Troop, they must be particularly careful in delivering it in a proper manner, as they will be answerable for any Mistakes in that Respect.

Trumpeters.

THE Trumpeters must be equally exact in the Cleanliness, Uniformity, and Nicety of
 G 3 their

their Dress as every other Individual in the Regiment, and equally attentive to the good Condition and Health of their Horses as the Sergeants.

Trumpeters should take Care to instruct themselves in the Trumpet and Bugle Duty appointed for the Regiment.

Half an Hour before the Time appointed for Parade, the Trumpet should sound in the different Parts of the Town in which they live, and at the Time of Parade the Bugle for turning out, at which every Individual should turn out immediately. The Trumpeters who have no Bugle-horn, must sound the Parade instead.

The Trumpets and Bugles to be sounded in the Field as ordered.

Partial Signals of the Trumpet for the Regiment, must not be given in Line, but from the place where the chief Commander is, and by his particular Directions such Signals may, when proper, be made for the Whole, though not repeated by the Regiment—as if halted, to *March!* if walking, to *Trot!* to *Gallop!* to *Charge!*

Charge! to Halt! to Rally! and Form if broken and dispersed.

Such Signals are to be regarded as Warnings to Commanding Officers, but their Execution ought to follow immediately, in consequence of their Orders.—And at all Times the Quickness and Intelligence of Commanding Officers of Squadrons in Line or Column, must prompt them instantly to perform their corresponding Part of a Movement, whenever they evidently see that it is their Duty so to do.

Privates.

As it is the Duty of every Individual for the Credit of the Corps, to be extremely neat and nice in his Dress and Accoutrements, so it is hoped that he will be equally careful to comply exactly with the Uniformity of the Dress appointed for the Regiment, as any Failure therein will tend to destroy at once the good and military Appearance of the Corps. As every Individual in the Corps has come forward as a Volunteer,

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Volunteer, offering his Service for the Defence of our King and Constitution, against the Attacks both of foreign and domestick Enemies, it will be needless to urge the Necessity of a constant Attendance on the Days appointed for Exercise; the same laudable Spirit that induced him to take up Arms, will of course make him extremely anxious to become as compleat a Master in the Use of them as possible, and equally zealous for the Credit and Honor of the Corps. It will be proper however to mention, that those Persons, who may be prevented by Business, Illness, or any other unavoidable Circumstance, from attending in the Field on the Day appointed by the Commanding Officer of their Troop, should give as early Information of it to him as possible, sending in their Excuse either to him or the Serjeant for their Non-attendance in Writing, any Omision of which will be considered as a great Mark of Incivility and Disrespect to their Officers, and will be noticed accordingly, unless some very substantial Reason be alledged.

Every

Every one should be particularly careful to be on the Parade punctually at the Time appointed, as any one coming in afterwards occasions a great deal of Trouble and Confusion, and obliges the Officer to go over all the Tellings off again.

Every one should observe a strict Silence and pay great Attention during the Time they are in the Field, by which a great deal of Information will be gained in a short Time.

The same Horses, if possible, should always be brought into the Field, as they by constant Practice become more and more tractable to the Business, and the Introduction of any awkward or refractory Horse into the Troop will always create great Confusion.

The next and chief Concern of every Individual must be his great Attention to his Arms, which he must be particularly careful to keep perfectly clean and fit for immediate Use, otherwise his Services in the Field will be of little avail. He should also be extremely exact in never trust-
ing

ing his Arms out of his own Hands, or to the Care of, or lending them to any Body.

Each Private to be equipped with Clothes, Arms and Accoutrements, as follows :

An Uniform Jacket.

Do. Helmet.

Do. Cloak.

Do. Breeches.

Do. Boots.

Do. Spurs.

Do. Sword Belt and Knot.

Do. Cartouch-box and Belt.

Do. Bridle.

Do. Saddle.

Do. Holsters and Flounces.

Do. Breast-plate Martingale.

Do. Black Collar.

Do. Crupper.

Do. Pad.

Do. Necessary Bags.

Do. Pistol.

Do. Sword.

An

An Uniform Leather Stock.

- Do. Circingle.
- Do. Girts.
- Do. Stirrups.
- Do. Stirrup Leathers.
- Do. Cloak Straps.
- Do. Baggage Straps.

The twelve Carbines allowed for each Troop to be given to those Gentlemen that the Captain of the Troop shall think proper to name, and those to be furnished with Carbine Slings.

Should any Gentleman wish to equip himself with any of the above-mentioned Articles at his own Expence, he should be particularly careful to have them perfectly uniform.

The Serjeants and Corporals to be dressed in the same Uniform as the rest of the Regiment, except that the Serjeants are to have three Ornaments upon their Right Arm, and to wear their Sashes of White and Crimson, when on Duty; the Corporals to have two Ornaments on their Right Arm. The Hair should be worn short, with Powder, on Parade.

The

The Serjeants should see that the Accoutrements for the Horses are put on them in an uniform and proper Manner, and that the Cloak of each Individual is well folded up. No Saddle-cloth is ever to be worn.

The following Extracts from Col. Le Marchant's excellent Book on Sword Exercise, are earnestly recommended to the Perusal and Observance of the Wiltshire Yeomanry.

It is proper however to observe, that every Gentleman should be able to go through the Sword Exercise correctly *on Foot*, before he attempts it on Horseback; afterwards it will be necessary that he should go through the Six Divisions in Speed, and likewise the Attack and Defence on Horseback.

SWORD

SWORD EXERCISE.

Draw Swords.

At the Word or Caution :

Take Distances for Sword Exercise.

The First three on the Right of each Squadron, Front and Rear, place themselves correctly, by the Centre and Left by Threes reining back and covering the Right at their proper Distances, and at the Word, *March!* the whole do the same, and dress exactly by the Right. The Officers commanding Squadrons remain on the Front—The Flank Officers take Ground to the Right or Left, and the Cornets in the Centre (supposed to carry the Standards) with their covering Files, go to the Right about, and fall into the Rear.

Take

*Take care to perform Sword Exercise
by Six Divisions of Movements and by
Word of Command.*

A Flugel Man should be placed on each
Flank of the Regiment or Squadron.

The Commanding Officer then gives the
Word as follows,

To the Right Prove Distance of Files.

Slope Swords.

To the Front Prove Distance of Files.

Slope Swords.

WORDS OF COMMAND.

FIRST DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Assault.

Left Protect.

Right Protect.

Prepare to Guard.

Front give Point.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

SECOND DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Assault.

Guard.

Bridle arm Protect.

Sword arm Protect.

St. George.

Rear Cut.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

THIRD DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Assault.

Guard.

Horse's near Side Protect.

Horse's off Side Protect.

Cut One, Two and One.

Left Protect.

Right Protect.

Prepare to Guard.

Front give Point.

Cut One.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

On your Right to the Front Parry.

Cut Two and One.

Right give Point.

Prepare to Guard.

Left give Point.

Cut Three and Four.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Left, Cut One and Two.

Right, Cut One and Two.

Left give Point.

Prepare to Guard.

Right give Point.

Cut Five and Six.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

SIXTH

SIXTH DIVISION.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Right give Point.

Cut One and Two.

Left Parry.

Left Protect.

Right Protect.

Front give Point.

Prepare to Guard.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

F I N I S .



